

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL

BLM Project Lead: Dan Westermeyer, ORP

DOI-BLM-NV-2011-C010-0519-CX

Date: June 3, 2011

File Code: 2932

Field Office: Carson City District, Stillwater and Sierra Front Field Offices.

Applicant: Dennis Rechel. Cherry Valley Guide Service, Yerington, Nevada SRP NVC00000-11104

Legal Description: Carson City District Wide

Define Proposed Action:

Mr. Rechel, a licensed Master Guide for hunting in the State of Nevada has submitted a commercial SRP renewal application to the Carson City District Office for hunting and guiding on BLM managed lands on a multi-jurisdictional, statewide basis. State and Federal regulations require guides to secure land use permits with the appropriate land management agency when charging a fee to accompany customers during the legal hunting and fishing seasons. Mr. Rechel intends to guide customers on hunting trips throughout Nevada, with actual locations determined by client demand. Specially designated areas such as Wilderness Study Areas will be excluded from permitted use in the Carson City District until an Environmental Assessment level analysis is completed (43 CFR 2932.5). The permit will be valid for a ten year period with an annual renewal clause dependent upon adherence to stipulations, completion of required paper work and payment of fees. Guiding may occur on public lands by hiking or use of ATV and 4WD's. Camping will be in tents, camper or private facilities. It is anticipated that requested use will produce minimal impacts to resources. There will be a potential to reduce impacts through the application of stipulations and regulations compared to the alternative action which would be the unregulated use by unescorted and unsupervised hunters or hunting groups.

The Carson City District Office will be the lead on the permit, while each District Office within the state will review the application, provide cultural and NEPA clearance and additional stipulations as necessary for their respective management areas.

This action is in conformance with the Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001): page REC-7, SOP 3; All public lands not limited or closed in the RMP are open to all individual, commercial and competitive outdoor recreation uses. Opportunities for exploring the back-county by vehicle, hunting, camping, sightseeing and hiking are encouraged.

Categorical Exclusion Reference 516 DM 11.9 H (1) "Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/ or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan".

SCREENING FOR EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES: The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (516 DM 2, Appendix 2). The preparer and/or indicated specialist must verify that the Proposed Action does not:

		INITIALS	
		SWFO	SFFO
2.1 Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety	Preparer	<i>DC</i>	<i>BWB</i>
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas	Preparer	<i>DC</i>	<i>BWB</i>
	Archaeologist	<i>SM</i>	<i>BL</i>
	Rec/Wild/VRM	<i>DC</i>	<i>ABC</i>
	Soil/Water/Air	<i>DC</i>	<i>Y</i>
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources	Preparer	<i>DC</i>	<i>BWB</i>
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks	Preparer	<i>DC</i>	<i>BWB</i>
2.5 Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	Preparer	<i>DC</i>	<i>BWB</i>
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?	Preparer	<i>DC</i>	<i>BWB</i>

2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office	Archaeologist	<u>Joe</u> <u>SE</u>
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species	Wildlife Biologist	<u>A</u> <u>ST</u>
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	Preparer	<u>Joe</u> <u>ST</u>
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)	Preparer	<u>Joe</u> <u>ST</u>
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)	Archaeologist	<u>Joe</u> <u>ST</u>
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112)	Botanist/Resource Specialist	<u>Joe</u> <u>ST</u>

RMP conformance and CX review confirmation:

David M. Atty OK?
Preparer
Joe
P&EC Stillwater F.O.
B2B
P&EC Sierra Front F.O.

Cher A. Valent
NRS Supervisor, Stillwater F.O.
Alan B. Bitt
NRS Supervisor, Sierra Front F.O.

Reviewed by: Teresa J. Knutson
Teresa J. Knutson
Field Manager, Stillwater Field Office

Reviewed by: James W. Schneider
for Linda J. Kelly
Field Manager, Sierra Front Field Office

DECISION: Based upon the review of this proposal, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the RMP, and does not require a NEPA analysis. It is my decision to implement the action, as described.

Approved By: Christopher J. McAlear
Christopher J. McAlear
Carson City District Manager

9/16/11
Date